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**XIII**

**THE ESCALLONIAS IN GOLDEN GATE PARK, SAN  
FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, WITH DE-  
SCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES**

BY  
ALICE EASTWOOD  
*Curator, Department of Botany*

The conditions in Golden Gate Park are very favorable to these beautiful South American shrubs. They grow vigorously, bloom profusely, and almost continuously. Mr. John McLaren, the eminent superintendent of the parks of San Francisco, has always been interested in introducing new plants from other countries and the escallonias seem to have been especially successful. Fifteen different kinds are now in Golden Gate Park. Great confusion prevails concerning the names of many of these escallonias. Some are undescribed, probably hybrids; while others are almost universally incorrectly named by nurserymen and gardeners. One authentic hybrid has been produced in the Park by Mr. Peter Rock, the superintendent of the nursery. He pollinated *Escallonia montevicensis* with pollen from *Escallonia macrantha* and the best seedling proved to be an exceptional plant which is named in his honor. The different escallonias will be described in this article.

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1. **Escallonia rockii** Eastwood, new hybrid  
(*E. macrantha* × *E. montevidensis*.)

Tall, widely branching shrubs with striate and slightly angled branches; leaves obovate, obtuse, tapering to a short petiole, irregularly glandular-denticulate, upper surface glabrous and glossy, lower paler and with a few scattered glands, blades about 5 cm. long, 2 cm. wide; inflorescence a loosely branching thyrsoid panicle, often more than a foot long, the peduncles and pedicels minutely puberulent; bracts and bractlets with marginal glands; calyx broadly turbinate with some glands on the margin of the widely separated, subulate teeth; corolla pale pink or white with the buds and tips of the petals a darker pink, the claws somewhat spreading but forming a tube about 8 mm. long; filaments and style of equal length, the yellow anthers and green capitate stigmas inserted in a low yellow rounded disk.

This is one of the most vigorous species in the Park and in flower almost continuously. There are bushes in the Park 10 to 15 feet high.

*Type:* Herbarium Calif. Acad. Sci. No. 78638, collected in Golden Gate Park, December, 1917.

2. **Escallonia franciscana** Eastwood, new hybrid

Tall shrub with erect, stout branches, glandular and viscid throughout; leaves thick, oblong to elliptic, tapering to a short, thick, margined petiole, apex acute or obtuse, margin finely but unevenly crenulate, the lower part entire, both surfaces with large dark glands, more numerous and conspicuous on the lower surface; inflorescence a narrow panicle, very viscid throughout, as if varnished; calyx as long as the ovary, about 4 mm., open-campanulate with slender subulate divisions; corolla pink, the claws of the petals almost 1 cm. long and conniving to form a distinct tube, the spreading roundish limb much shorter; filaments shorter than the style and both stamens and pistil included in the corolla tube, the style in a cup-like disk surmounting the ovary. This is the common tall, pink-flowered escallonia with the odor of slippery elm, generally known as *Escallonia rosea*, a name belonging to a quite different species. It is one of the oldest in cultivation in the

Park and has spread by cuttings to other parks and gardens. It seems to be related to *Escallonia illinita* Presl., or to *E. viscosa* Forbes, both of which have white flowers and different leaves. The color of the flowers and the heavy texture of the leaves suggest a connection with *E. macrantha*, which may be one of its parents. The strong odor emanating from the bushes suggests a relationship with *E. illinita*, but to most people the odor is not disagreeable as that is said to be.

*Type:* Herbarium Calif. Acad. Sci. No. 78584, collected in Golden Gate Park, July 31, 1918.

### 3. *Escallonia macrantha* Hook. & Arn.

(Hook. Bot. Miscell. 3: 341. 1833. Bot. Mag., t. 4473.)

This is the most generally cultivated species in California and is in bloom several times a year according to the frequency of pruning and watering. As it grows in the Park, it agrees exactly with the plate in the Botanical Magazine where it was first figured. It is generally advertised in catalogues as *Escallonia rubra*, a name belonging to another species. *Escallonia macrantha* is a compact spreading shrub, densely clothed with broad, thick leaves, shining on the upper surface and with many large glands on the lower. The flowers are a lovely crimson in short, close panicles, the claws conniving to form a tube as long as the limb is wide. It is the largest flowered escallonia, the size of the flower differing slightly according to the fertility of the soil, the amount of water, or the vigor of the shoot.

### 4. *Escallonia rubra* R. & P.

(Pers. Syn. 2: 235.)

An erect shrub with many erect branches terminated by narrow panicles or sometimes by simple racemes. The leaves are rather thin, oblanceolate to oblong-obovate, tapering to a short margined petiole and narrowing to an acute apex, almost glabrous with the glands on the lower surface very few. The flowers are bright crimson, the claws of the petals conniving into a narrow tube twice as long as the limb; calyx with triangular spreading divisions; pistil and anthers slightly

exserted, the style inserted in a conical receptacle surmounting the ovary.

Near the Pershing monument there is a cluster of these shrubs and some can be found almost always in bloom.

5. **Escallonia punctata** DC.

(Prod. IV: 3. 1830.)

This is a related species with leaves pointed at both ends. It is glandular throughout except the corolla and upper leaf surface. The flowers are sometimes solitary or in few-flowered corymbs, the corolla a beautiful crimson, the claws of the petals forming a tube and the open-campanulate calyx becoming red, the divisions slender subulate. The insertion of the stigma is similar to that of *E. rubra*, but the flowers resemble those of *E. macrantha*.

6. **Escallonia pterocladon** Hook.

(Bot. Mag. t. 4827. 1855.)

7. **Escallonia exoniensis** Hort. ex Handl.

(Trees Kew, pt. 1: 227.)

These two species are very similar, as is to be expected, since the latter is a hybrid between *E. pterocladon* and *E. rubra*, raised in Veitch's nursery, Exeter, England. Both have distinctly ridged stems and erect branches terminated with panicles of many flowers. *Escallonia pterocladon* has white flowers, while those of *E. exoniensis* are beautifully tinged with pink and the inflorescence is more spreading. The plant figured in the Botanical Magazine has simpler inflorescence than any in the Park. Both have flowers with the claws of the petals conniving to form a tube, but the calyx of *E. pterocladon* is smooth while that of *E. exoniensis* is glandular. Both are dainty and beautiful in bloom and grow luxuriantly in the Park.

Near the Pershing monument they are planted with *E. rubra*.

8. *Escallonia rubricalyx* Eastwood, new hybrid

The origin of this form is obscure. It may be the same as *Escallonia rubra* var. *flor alba* Lodd., Bot. Cab., t. 1291, and is perhaps a hybrid between *E. rubra* and *E. grahamiana*. It is a spreading shrub, never becoming tall, with slender branches. The flowers are in small, few-flowered panicles with white petals forming a short tube, and with red calyx. The bushes have a rounded outline and are profusely flowered. The leaves resemble those of *E. grahamiana*.

*Type:* Herbarium Calif. Acad. Sci. No. 78611, collected in Golden Gate Park, August, 1918.

[The two following escallonias with large panicles of white flowers are often confused, as they are somewhat superficially alike, but they really belong to different sections because of essential differences in the flowers.]

9. *Escallonia montevidensis* DC.

(Prod. 4; 4. 1830.)

The leaves of this species have a little notch at the top, the petals of the flowers do not form a tube, and the stamens and pistil are conspicuously exerted. On account of the butterflies and other insects that swarm over the bushes when in flower, this is called the butterfly-bush in the park. It has only one season of bloom in late summer, with large, rounded panicles of white flowers. The finest bushes are along the border of Stow Lake, where there is always an abundant supply of water.

10. *Escallonia grahamiana* Gill ex Hook. & Arn.

(Bot. Miscell. 3: 343. 1833.)

This was figured as *Escallonia glandulosa* in Sweet's British Flower Garden, 4; t. 81. A specimen was sent to Mr. W. J. Bean of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew for verification and for comparison with the type. In cooperation with Mr. T. A. Sprague of the Royal Herbarium, the identification was verified. The leaves of this species are never notched at the apex, but in shape otherwise similar to those of *E. montevidensis*. The panicle is not rounded at the top but pyramidal, the petals

have claws that connive to form a tube, the stamens and style are not conspicuously exerted, the insects do not hover over this in swarms, and its period of bloom is longer and more irregular. The sessile glands interspersed through the inflorescence doubtless suggested Sweet's name, but there are other species much more glandular. It becomes so badly infested with the Citrophilus mealy bug, *Pseudococcus gahani* Green, that it is being removed in many places. It has gone under more names than any other species.

11. *Escallonia philippiana* Engler  
(Linnæa, 36: 571. 1869-70.)

This is considered by some botanists to be a variety of *E. virgata* Pers., Syn. 1: 234. Until recently there was but one plant in the Park. It is a low, much-branched shrub with the branches curving downwards and densely clothed when in flower with short, leafy branches; leaves small, glabrous and deciduous; flowers in the leaf axils; petals white, spreading, without claws; filaments and style very short. This *escallonia* resembles a *leptospermum* in general appearance when in flower.

12. *Escallonia langleyensis* Vilm. & Bois.  
(Frut. Vil. Cat. 1: 131.)

This is a hybrid between *E. philippiana* and *E. punctata* and was produced in Mr. Veitch's nursery, Exeter, England. It has the habit and foliage of *E. philippiana*, but is not so stiff. It has the beautiful crimson flowers with short, broad claws and the glandular pubescence of *E. punctata*.

13. *Escallonia organensis* Gardner  
(In Hooker's Icones: t. 514. 1843.)

This has recently been introduced into the nursery and is not yet planted out. The leaves are narrowly obovate with red margins; stems also red. It is figured in the Botanical Magazine: t. 4274 with a densely flowered, compact, rounded panicle. The petals are a lovely rose-color with a dark red spot at the throat above a short tube.

14. **Escallonia pulverulenta** (R. & P.) Pers.  
(Syn., I: 235. 1805-7.)

This cannot be mistaken for any other species. The flowers are white, densely crowded in a long spike resembling a tail, and the stigma is 2-cleft. The whole plant is downy and viscid. *Escallonia berteriana* DC., Prod., IV:665 is a smoother form of this, which has been named *E. pulverulenta glaber* Engler, Fl. Bras., XXV: 149.

It is not in the Park, but the name has been incorrectly applied to other species.

15. **Escallonia revoluta** R. & P.  
(Pers., Syn. I: 235. 1805-7.)

This species is also unmistakable. It is a tall, coarse, erect shrub said to attain the height of 30 feet. The whole plant is covered with a thick white down. The tubular white flowers are very densely clustered in large terminal pyramidal panicles. The leaves are thick and revolute.